



Alberta Awaits

Summer 2007



A newsletter for people interested in moving to Alberta, Canada
Produced by the Government of Alberta - Employment, Immigration and Industry

Alberta's New Provincial Nominee Program: Getting You Here Faster

Do you want to live and work in Alberta, Canada permanently? If the answer is yes, and you are tired of waiting in the processing queue, we have good news. By accessing the Alberta Provincial Nominee Program (PNP), you can be living and working in Canada sooner! If you are a skilled worker with formal education or specialized training, such as a university degree or 2-3 year (technical) college diploma – or you have completed a trade apprenticeship program and become a certified journeyman (City and Guilds or National Vocational Qualification), the PNP may be able to help.

How the Alberta PNP can Assist You

Step 1: First, find an eligible employer who is willing to offer you a full-time, permanent job. Ask the employer to apply to the PNP for approval to recruit foreign workers to permanently fill vacant positions they haven't been able to fill with permanent residents or Canadians.

Step 2: After the employer's application has been approved, then you can apply to the PNP, and, if you are nominated by the PNP, your application could be moved to be fast-tracked for processing your permanent resident application!

If your employer applies for and receives a positive Labour Market Opinion, you can apply for a Work Permit and work in Alberta as a Temporary Foreign Worker while your PNP nomination is fast-tracking your Permanent residence application at the Canadian High Commission.



Alberta
Government
Canada

New to the PNP

In addition to the skilled worker categories, the Alberta PNP also has recently announced the following semi-skilled categories:

- Food and Beverage Processing Industry,
- Hotel and Lodging Industry,
- Manufacturing Industry,
- Trucking Industry (long-haul truck drivers).

For details about occupations eligible for these categories, visit: www.alberta-canada.com/pnp and choose "Semi-skilled Worker"

Alberta Foreign Worker Hotline
1-780-427-6419

Great Jobs in Alberta

Many Alberta employers are looking for workers just like you. Numerous job opportunities are posted on the following websites:

- Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry:
www.alberta-canada.com/jobs
- Alberta Physician Link:
www.ruralphysicianlink.ab.ca/current_vacancies.html
- Service Canada: www.jobbank.gc.ca

Additional resources also exist where you can link to other job sites:

- Alberta Learning Information Service provides links to Alberta and Regional Job Banks, Employer Job Banks by Industry, Employment Agency Job Banks, Public Service Job Banks and Student Job Banks. To find these resources, start here: www.alis.gov.ab.ca/employment/jobpostings/ab.asp
- Service Canada also offers links to "Other Job Sites" resources, listed here: www.jobbank.gc.ca/Related_en.aspx



Mixer with the Minister

Alberta immigration minister reports on improvements to immigration process

About 200 UK residents considering immigrating to Alberta had a chance to hear about the province's history of welcoming new comers, its current economic boom and its bright future. Iris Evans, Alberta's minister of Employment, Immigration and Industry, co-hosted a special reception April 24, 2007 at Canada House in London for those interested in immigrating to Canada's second most western province.

"In the past, the process for immigrating to Canada has been onerous and time consuming," Evans said. "That's one of the problems we're trying to fix. Our objective is to find the right immigrants with the right skills to meet our economy's needs ... to get people there at the right time ... and the province support's people's needs before they come to Alberta and after they arrive, so they can settle and have a positive experience."

Several months after the reception, Evans wrote to those in attendance updating them on her progress to the immigration process including the recently signed Canada-Alberta Cooperation Agreement on Immigration and the expansion of the popular Provincial Nominee Program.

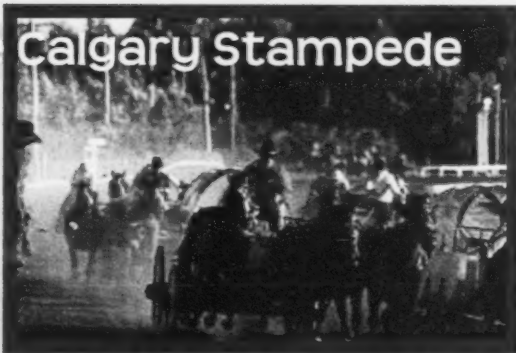
The London reception was only one part of a Minister Evan's mission that also included Paris, Berlin and Amsterdam. For more information about immigrating to Alberta, visit: www.alberta-canada.com/immigration



The Honourable Minister Iris Evans (right) greets guests at reception in London.

Culture and Festivals

The Calgary Stampede



The famous Calgary Stampede is know worldwide as the 'greatest outdoor show on earth' and includes a million dollar rodeo, midway, chuckwagon races, western showcase and concerts. The Stampede brings a taste of western culture to hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. This 10 day event takes place every July and is embraced by tourists and citizens alike. Besides daily events at the Stampede grounds, folks can take part in free pancake breakfasts and Stampede parties throughout the city. www.calgarystampede.com

Second only to Edinburgh, Edmonton's International Fringe Theatre Festival is known globally as one of the most successful Fringe Festivals in the world. Attracting artists and patrons from around the world the Edmonton Fringe has been entertaining audiences for over 27 years. www.fringetheatretheadventures.ca



Edmonton's Fringe Festival



Alberta Awaits

Summer 2007



A newsletter for people interested in moving to Alberta, Canada
Produced by the Government of Alberta - Employment, Immigration and Industry

Alberta's New Provincial Nominee Program: Getting You Here Faster

Do you want to live and work in Alberta, Canada permanently? If the answer is yes, and you are tired of waiting in the processing queue, we have good news. By accessing the Alberta Provincial Nominee Program (PNP), you can be living and working in Canada sooner! If you are a skilled worker with formal education or specialized training, such as a university degree or 2-3 year (technical) college diploma – or you have completed a trade apprenticeship program and become a certified journeyman (City and Guilds or National Vocational Qualification), the PNP may be able to help.

How the Alberta PNP can Assist You

Step 1: First, find an eligible employer who is willing to offer you a full-time, permanent job. Ask the employer to apply to the PNP for approval to recruit foreign workers to permanently fill vacant positions they haven't been able to fill with permanent residents or Canadians.

Step 2: After the employer's application has been approved, then you can apply to the PNP, and, if you are nominated by the PNP, your application could be moved to be fast-tracked for processing your permanent resident application!

If your employer applies for and receives a positive Labour Market Opinion, you can apply for a Work Permit and work in Alberta as a Temporary Foreign Worker while your PNP nomination is fast-tracking your Permanent residence application at the Canadian High Commission.



Alberta
Government
Canada

New to the PNP

In addition to the skilled worker categories, the Alberta PNP also has recently announced the following semi-skilled categories:

- Food and Beverage Processing Industry,
- Hotel and Lodging Industry,
- Manufacturing Industry,
- Trucking Industry (long-haul truck drivers).

For details about occupations eligible for these categories, visit: www.alberta-canada.com/pnp and choose "Semi-skilled Worker"

Alberta Foreign Worker Hotline
1-780-427-6419

Great Jobs in Alberta

Many Alberta employers are looking for workers just like you. Numerous job opportunities are posted on the following websites:

- Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry:
www.alberta-canada.com/jobs
- Alberta Physician Link:
www.ruralphysicianlink.ab.ca/current_vacancies.html
- Service Canada: www.jobbank.gc.ca

Additional resources also exist where you can link to other job sites:

- Alberta Learning Information Service provides links to Alberta and Regional Job Banks, Employer Job Banks by Industry, Employment Agency Job Banks, Public Service Job Banks and Student Job Banks. To find these resources, start here: www.alis.gov.ab.ca/employment/jobpostings/ab.asp
- Service Canada also offers links to "Other Job Sites" resources, listed here: www.jobbank.gc.ca/Related_en.aspx



Mixer with the Minister

Alberta immigration minister reports on improvements to immigration process



The Honourable Minister Iris Evans (right) greets guests at reception in London.

About 200 UK residents considering immigrating to Alberta had a chance to hear about the province's history of welcoming new comers, its current economic boom and its bright future. Iris Evans, Alberta's minister of Employment, Immigration and Industry, co-hosted a special reception April 24, 2007 at Canada House in London for those interested in immigrating to Canada's second most western province.

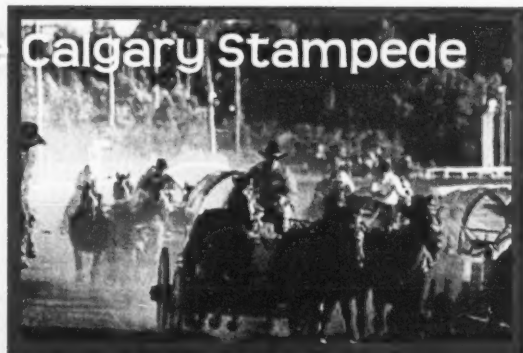
"In the past, the process for immigrating to Canada has been onerous and time consuming," Evans said. "That's one of the problems we're trying to fix. Our objective is to find the right immigrants with the right skills to meet our economy's needs ... to get people there at the right time ... and the province support's people's needs before they come to Alberta and after they arrive, so they can settle and have a positive experience."

Several months after the reception, Evans wrote to those in attendance updating them on her progress to the immigration process including the recently signed Canada-Alberta Cooperation Agreement on Immigration and the expansion of the popular Provincial Nominee Program.

The London reception was only one part of a Minister Evan's mission that also included Paris, Berlin and Amsterdam. For more information about immigrating to Alberta, visit: www.alberta-canada.com/immigration

Culture and Festivals

The Calgary Stampede



The famous Calgary Stampede is know worldwide as the 'greatest outdoor show on earth' and includes a million dollar rodeo, midway, chuckwagon races, western showcase and concerts. The Stampede brings a taste of western culture to hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. This 10 day event takes place every July and is embraced by tourists and citizens alike. Besides daily events at the Stampede grounds, folks can take part in free pancake breakfasts and Stampede parties throughout the city. www.calgarystampede.com

Second only to Edinburgh, Edmonton's International Fringe Theatre Festival is known globally as one of the most successful Fringe Festivals in the world. Attracting artists and patrons from around the world the Edmonton Fringe has been entertaining audiences for over 27 years. www.fringetheatreadventures.ca



Edmonton's Fringe Festival



Finding Your Home

Alberta has thousands of communities offering every possible choice of lifestyle. Whether urban, suburban or country, the perfect home in the right community is here in Alberta waiting for you. Purchasing a house in Alberta is relatively easy and once you find your dream home the transaction can be completed in approximately a week.

For detailed information about buying or renting a home in Canada, you will find The Newcomers Guide to Canadian Housing produced by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, a valuable resource. To access this document, visit: www.cmhc.ca/en/ under 'Consumers' use the "Browse by Topic" drop down and choose "Buying a Home"

Home Buying Terminology

The majority of houses built in Alberta are constructed with basements (below ground level) and have central heating. If you are searching for a house or apartment, here are a few common terms you will see on Alberta real estate listing sites:

Acreage

A single family home constructed on a plot of land of at least one acre in size, but is not a farm.

Bi-Level

A bi-level is in many ways just a raised bungalow. The entry way is halfway between the main floor and the basement. Stairs lead up to the main floor and down to the basement. The lot grade is much lower in relation to the building. The key advantage to this type of housing is that if one wishes to develop the basement, the larger basement windows allow in much more natural light.

A disadvantage of both the bungalow and the bi-level is that they need the same amount of roof and basement space as a two-storey home that provides twice as much above grade living area. The roof and the basement together form a major part of the cost of building a home. If you have a certain amount of space, there is a point (approximately 140 sq. metres), above which it is usually more economical to build a two-storey house.

Walkout

Any style of home (bungalow, two storey or bi-level) that is constructed with the house situated on a slope and part of the basement is above ground. The basement level of the home provides an exit at ground level – normally into the backyard, at the rear of the house.

Real Estate Links

Review the Housing Market in Canada:

www.cmhc.ca - Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation is Canada's National Housing Agency, established as a government-owned corporation in 1946, CHMC provides information about buying a home.

Residential Property Listings:

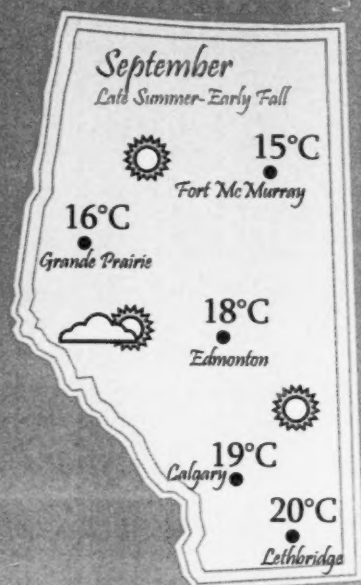
www.cren.ca - Calgary Real Estate News
www.rewedmonton.ca - Edmonton Real Estate Weekly
www.mls.ca/map.aspx?AreaID=6240 - Multiple Listing Service - Alberta listings

Agriculture & Commercial Properties and Businesses for Sale:

www.albertafirst.com/realestate/
AlbertaFirst.com Ltd.
www.icx.ca - National Commercial Council



Alberta
Government
Canada 



Enjoying Alberta's Summer Season

Alberta has four distinct seasons, all enhanced by the backdrop of the province's fabulous scenery. Alberta's first day of summer, known as summer solstice, is June 21st, which is the day with the most hours of daylight during the year. Depending on location, Albertans enjoy up to 17 hours of daylight on that day. For example, on June 21st, 2007 the sunrise and sunset for Alberta's two major cities were:

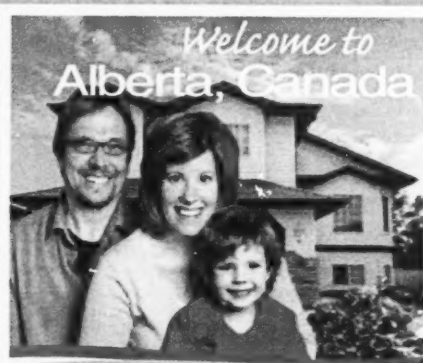
2007	Sunrise June 21	Sunset June 21	# of Daylight Hours
Edmonton:	5:03 a.m.	10:05 p.m.	17 hrs 02 mins
Calgary:	5:21 a.m.	9:53 p.m.	16 hrs 32 mins

Alberta's long summer days provide moderate temperatures throughout the summer season. Depending on where you live in the province, temperatures will vary. Following are average, daytime high temperatures from cities across the province from June to August 2007:

City	June	July	August
Edmonton	20.6°C	26.3°C	21.4°C
Calgary	21.6°C	26.6°C	23.2°C
Fort McMurray	19.4°C	25.8°C	20.3°C
Grand Prairie	20.4°C	24.7°C	21.1°C
Lethbridge	22.1°C	28.1°C	25.6°C

Alberta is Canada's sunniest province receiving over 2330 hours of sunshine annually. During the summer and into early autumn, those long summer days provide the perfect backdrop for celebrating the following events and holidays:

School's Out! Summer Vacation Season – July through August. Alberta's public and separate school systems dismiss Kindergarten to Grade 12 students for the summer vacation season at the end of June. In 2007, the last day of the school term was June 29th. As the kids are out of school, July and August are the traditional months when families travel the province, enjoying summer's warm sunny days, touring Alberta Rockies and the province's numerous national and provincial parks – taking in a variety of fairs, festivals, and cultural events along the way.



Alberta's communities are safe, modern and have an enviable quality of life.

- 3% Unemployment, yes, three percent!
- High quality public health care and education systems
- Year round recreation opportunities
- Lowest overall taxes in Canada

For more information on living and working in Alberta please visit www.alberta-canada.com/immigration or call our Foreign Worker hotline at: (780) 427-6419

Alberta
Canada

Canada Day – July 1st

Canada Day commemorates the Confederation of Canada, the day in 1867 that the first colonies of British North America entered Confederation as the Dominion of Canada. The holiday was established by statute in 1879, under the name Dominion Day. On October 27, 1982, parliament decreed that "Dominion Day" be known as "Canada Day". The July 1st Canada Day holiday is a statutory holiday celebrated across the country with barbecues, parades, music, and fireworks.

Labour Day – First Monday of September

Labour Day is a statutory holiday throughout Canada. It began in Canada on April 15, 1872, five years after Confederation. On that historic day the Toronto Trades Assembly, the original central labour body in Canada, organised the country's first significant workers demonstration. A defining moment in Canadian labour history, it opened the door to the formation of the broader Canadian labour movement and sowed the seeds of what is now an annual workers' holiday around the world.

Back to School – late August / early September

In Alberta, the first Tuesday in September, following the Labour Day weekend, normally marks the first day back to school for the coming school term. However, some schools begin classes a few days earlier, at the end of August. The province's public education system includes public, separate, francophone and charter schools, as well as alternative programs and virtual programs offered by school boards and home education. Students are legally required to attend school from ages 6 to 16.



Finding Your Home

Alberta has thousands of communities offering every possible choice of lifestyle. Whether urban, suburban or country, the perfect home in the right community is here in Alberta waiting for you. Purchasing a house in Alberta is relatively easy and once you find your dream home the transaction can be completed in approximately a week.

For detailed information about buying or renting a home in Canada, you will find The Newcomers Guide to Canadian Housing produced by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, a valuable resource. To access this document, visit: www.cmhc.ca/en/ under 'Consumers' use the "Browse by Topic" drop down and choose "Buying a Home"

Home Buying Terminology

The majority of houses built in Alberta are constructed with basements (below ground level) and have central heating. If you are searching for a house or apartment, here are a few common terms you will see on Alberta real estate listing sites:

Acreage

A single family home constructed on a plot of land of at least one acre in size, but is not a farm.

Bi-Level

A bi-level is in many ways just a raised bungalow. The entry way is halfway between the main floor and the basement. Stairs lead up to the main floor and down to the basement. The lot grade is much lower in relation to the building. The key advantage to this type of housing is that if one wishes to develop the basement, the larger basement windows allow in much more natural light.

A disadvantage of both the bungalow and the bi-level is that they need the same amount of roof and basement space as a two-storey home that provides twice as much above grade living area. The roof and the basement together form a major part of the cost of building a home. If you have a certain amount of space, there is a point (approximately 140 sq. metres), above which it is usually more economical to build a two-storey house.

Walkout

Any style of home (bungalow, two storey or bi-level) that is constructed with the house situated on a slope and part of the basement is above ground. The basement level of the home provides an exit at ground level – normally into the backyard, at the rear of the house.

Real Estate Links

Review the Housing Market in Canada:

www.cmhc.ca - Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation is Canada's National Housing Agency, established as a government-owned corporation in 1946, CHMC provides information about buying a home.

Residential Property Listings:

www.cren.ca - Calgary Real Estate News
www.rewedmonton.ca - Edmonton Real Estate Weekly
www.mls.ca/map.aspx?AreaID=6240 - Multiple Listing Service - Alberta listings

Agriculture & Commercial Properties and Businesses for Sale:

www.albertafirst.com/realestate/
AlbertaFirst.com Ltd.
www.icx.ca - National Commercial Council



Alberta
Government
Canada 



Enjoying Alberta's Summer Season

Alberta has four distinct seasons, all enhanced by the backdrop of the province's fabulous scenery. Alberta's first day of summer, known as summer solstice, is June 21st, which is the day with the most hours of daylight during the year. Depending on location, Albertans enjoy up to 17 hours of daylight on that day. For example, on June 21st, 2007 the sunrise and sunset for Alberta's two major cities were:

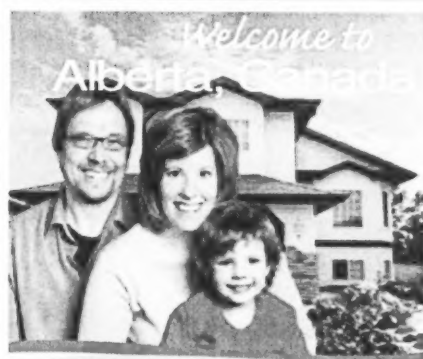
2007	Sunrise June 21	Sunset June 21	# of Daylight Hours
Edmonton:	5:03 a.m.	10:05 p.m.	17 hrs 02 mins
Calgary:	5:21 a.m.	9:53 p.m.	16 hrs 32 mins

Alberta's long summer days provide moderate temperatures throughout the summer season. Depending on where you live in the province, temperatures will vary. Following are average, daytime high temperatures from cities across the province from June to August 2007:

City	June	July	August
Edmonton	20.6°C	26.3°C	21.4°C
Calgary	21.6°C	26.6°C	23.2°C
Fort McMurray	19.4°C	25.8°C	20.3°C
Grand Prairie	20.4°C	24.7°C	21.1°C
Lethbridge	22.1°C	28.1°C	25.6°C

Alberta is Canada's sunniest province receiving over 2330 hours of sunshine annually. During the summer and into early autumn, those long summer days provide the perfect backdrop for celebrating the following events and holidays:

School's Out! Summer Vacation Season – July through August. Alberta's public and separate school systems dismiss Kindergarten to Grade 12 students for the summer vacation season at the end of June. In 2007, the last day of the school term was June 29th. As the kids are out of school, July and August are the traditional months when families travel the province, enjoying summer's warm sunny days, touring Alberta Rockies and the province's numerous national and provincial parks – taking in a variety of fairs, festivals, and cultural events along the way.



Alberta's communities are safe, modern and have an enviable quality of life.

- 3% Unemployment, yes, three percent!
- High quality public health care and education systems
- Year round recreation opportunities
- Lowest overall taxes in Canada

Alberta
Canada

For more information about living and working in Alberta please visit www.alberta-canada.com/immigration or call our Foreign Worker hotline at: 780-421-0341

Canada Day – July 1st

Canada Day commemorates the Confederation of Canada, the day in 1867 that the first colonies of British North America entered Confederation as the Dominion of Canada. The holiday was established by statute in 1879, under the name Dominion Day. On October 27, 1982, parliament decreed that "Dominion Day" be known as "Canada Day". The July 1st Canada Day holiday is a statutory holiday celebrated across the country with barbecues, parades, music, and fireworks.

Labour Day – First Monday of September

Labour Day is a statutory holiday throughout Canada. It began in Canada on April 15, 1872, five years after Confederation. On that historic day the Toronto Trades Assembly, the original central labour body in Canada, organised the country's first significant workers demonstration. A defining moment in Canadian labour history, it opened the door to the formation of the broader Canadian labour movement and sowed the seeds of what is now an annual workers' holiday around the world.

Back to School – late August / early September

In Alberta, the first Tuesday in September, following the Labour Day weekend, normally marks the first day back to school for the coming school term. However, some schools begin classes a few days earlier, at the end of August. The province's public education system includes public, separate, francophone and charter schools, as well as alternative programs and virtual programs offered by school boards and home education. Students are legally required to attend school from ages 6 to 16.